

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please substitute the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 9, with the following.

-- Fig. 10 is a view showing the principle of distance measurement by an electrostatic sensor. Referring to Fig. 10, a flat electrode 30 used for measurement is arranged near an object 31 to be measured. A high-frequency voltage is applied from an oscillator OS to the flat electrode 30. An ammeter AM is connected between the flat electrode 30 and oscillator OS. The ammeter AM and a measurement device (circuit) 32 connected to the ammeter AM measure the magnitude of an AC current flowing the flat electrode 30. The current measurement result is input to an arithmetic circuit 33. A distance d d_0 between the flat electrode 30 and the object 31 to be measured is measured by arithmetic processing by the arithmetic circuit 33. --

Please substitute the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 9, with the following.

-- Fig. 8 is an explanatory view of the principle of the sensor shown in Fig. 7; --

Please substitute the paragraph beginning at page 26, line 19, and ending on page 27, line 7, with the following.

-- As shown in Fig. 2, a high-frequency voltage is applied from an oscillator OS to, e.g., the electrode 305 selected by the change-over switch SW from the electrodes 301 to 306. An ammeter AM is connected between the change-over switch SW and oscillator OS. The magnitude of the AC current flowing to the selected electrode 305 is measured by the ammeter

AM and a measurement device (circuit) 32 connected to the ammeter AM. The current measurement result is input to an arithmetic circuit 33. The distance d5 between the selected electrode 305 and the object 31 to be measured is measured by arithmetic processing by the arithmetic circuit 33. --